

**Appln No. 09/851,722**  
**Amdt date February 28, 2005**  
**Reply to Office action of November 30, 2004**

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A communications system, comprising:

a plurality of media terminal adapters;

a telephone line; and

a gateway configured to exchange voice and data packets between a network and each of the media terminal adapters over the telephone line,

wherein the gateway receives a packet payload and determines if the received packet payload is voice packet or data packet, if the received packet payload is a voice packet, the gateway further determines if the voice packet is destined for a telephone or the network, if the voice packet is destined for the telephone, the gateway depacketizes the voice packet and transmits the depacketized voice packet to the telephone, if the voice packet is destined for the network, the gateway reformats the voice packet and transmits the reformatted voice packet to the network.

2. (Original) The communications system of claim 1 wherein one of the media terminal adapter comprises a telephony device.

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3. (Original) The communications system of claim 2 wherein the telephony device comprises a telephone.

4. (Original) The communications system of claim 1 wherein the gateway is configured to exchange the voice and data packets between the network and the media terminal adapters by converting between a first format for the voice and data packets on the network and a second format for the voice and data packets on the telephone line, the first format being different from the second format.

5. (Original) The communications system of claim 4 wherein one of the media terminal adapters comprises a telephone responsive to the voice packets having the second format.

6. (Original) The communications system of claim 5 wherein the telephone comprises a voice processing engine configured to convert between the voice packets having the second format and an analog voice signal in a voiceband frequency.

7. (Original) The communications system of claim 4 further comprising a telephone, and wherein one of the media terminal adapters comprises an adapter configured to exchange the voice packets on the telephone line having the second format with analog voice in a voiceband frequency.

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8. (Original) The communications system of claim 1 wherein the gateway comprises a cable modem.

9. (Original) The communications system of claim 1 wherein the gateway comprises a first port coupled to the telephone line and a second port, the communications system further comprising an additional media terminal adapter coupled to the second port.

10. (Original) The communications system of claim 1 wherein the gateway further comprises a voice and data processor configured to exchange the voice and data between the network and the additional media terminal adapter.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of communication, comprising:

receiving a packet payload from a first network;

determining if the received packet payload is voice packet or data packet;

if the received packet payload is a voice packet, further determining if the voice packet is destined for a telephone or a second network having a plurality of media adapter terminals;

depacketizing the voice packet and transmitting the depacketized voice packet over a phone line to the telephone if the voice packet is destined for the telephone; and

reformatting the voice packet and transmitting the reformatted voice packet over the phone line to the second network, if the voice packet is destined for the network.

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~~exchanging voice and data packets between a network and a plurality of media adapter terminals coupled to a telephone line.~~

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein one of the media terminal adapter comprises a telephony device.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the telephony device comprises a telephone.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the voice and data packet exchange comprises converting between a first format for the voice and data packets on the second network and a second format for the voice and data packets on the telephone line, the first format being different from the second format.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein one of the media terminal adapters comprises a telephone responsive to the voice packets having the second format.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 further comprising exchanging a second plurality of voice and data packets between the second network and an additional media terminal adapter.

17. (New) A communication system comprising:

means for receiving a packet payload from a first network;

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means for determining if the received packet payload is voice packet or data packet;

if the received packet payload is a voice packet, means for determining if the voice packet is destined for a telephone or a second network having a plurality of media adapter terminals;

means for depacketizing the voice packet and transmitting the depacketized voice packet over a phone line to the telephone if the voice packet is destined for the telephone; and

means for reformatting the voice packet and transmitting the reformatted voice packet over the phone line to the second network, if the voice packet is destined for the network.

18. (New) The communications system of claim 17 further comprising means for converting between a first format for the voice and data packets on the second network and a second format for the voice and data packets on the telephone line, the first format being different from the second format.

19. (New) The communications system of claim 18 wherein one of the media terminal adapters comprises a telephone responsive to the voice packets having the second format.

20. (New) The communications system of claim 19 wherein the telephone comprises means for converting between the voice packets having the second format and an analog voice signal in a voiceband frequency.